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LB 878, 880

it doled out by the state Department of Education, by the Board of Education to establish mentoring programs. That's what this amendment does. And in fact you'll see that in the next bill, LB 878, the capital construction bill, Senator Pedersen, Dwite Pedersen, has an amendment to strike \$950,000 for weapons training facilities. And, if I may, Senator Vrtiska, can I ask you a question?

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Vrtiska?

SENATOR VRTISKA: Yes.

SENATOR BRUNING: Senator Vrtiska, as my friend, I ask you this facetiously. But, is this weapons training facility going to be built in the Tecumseh area as a part of the prison down there?

SENATOR VRTISKA: I don't have any idea (inaudible).

SENATOR BRUNING: It is, I'll tell you it is, the weapons training facility is. But...

SENATOR VRTISKA: I knew it was, I just wondered if you knew it.

SENATOR BRUNING: Okay. (Laughter) My question to you though, Senator, facetiously speaking, aren't...isn't there some paramilitary organization down there that's got its own facility that the prison could borrow? (Laughter) And I'm kidding, you don't have to answer that. I just had to give you a poke in the ribs. I've spent time at Tecumseh at Steve Johnson's bowling alley. I've even played in the Elk Creek softball tournament. So I know what kind of heathens you represent. (Laugh) I'm kidding you. (Laugh)

SENATOR VRTISKA: I hope so.

SENATOR BRUNING: Back to the point. I want to give this body an opportunity to show that it cares about kids more than bricks and mortar. Where are our priorities? Do we want to build more prisons, build bigger prisons, build thicker walls, pour more cement, or do we want to get to these kids before we need the cement, before we need the brick walls, before we need the iron bars? This amendment gives you a chance to say that the state